

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 09921 310143Z

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /016 W

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R 310136Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3620

INFO FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

UNCLAS TOKYO 9921

SCI FOR BEAUBIEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, EIND, A

SUBJECT: DRUG REEVALUATION

ON JULY 29, 1974, AN ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE MINISTER OF
HEALTH AND WELFARE RELEASED ITS FINDINGS ON EFFICACY OF
CERTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN USE IN JAPAN. THIS WAS THE
SECOND DRUG REEVALUATION SURVEY UNDERTAKEN BY THE COUNCIL,
COVERING FOUR CATEGORIES OF MEDICINE; VITAMINE B1 PREPARATIONS,
ANALGESICS, MEDICINE FOR CIRCULATORY DISEASES, AND MEDICINE
FOR PSYCHONEUROSES. THE COUNCIL FOUND 101 OUT OF 943 ITEMS
OF MEDICINE IN THESE CATEGORIES (11 PERCENT) TO BE INEFFICACIOUS,
410 (43 PERCENT) TO BE PARTIALLY EFFICACIOUS AND 432 (46 PERCENT)
TO BE EFFICACIOUS. THE COUNCIL'S FINDINGS ARE TO BE FOLLOWED
BY MHW ACTION IN ORDERING MANUFACTURERS OF THESE INEFFICACIOUS
DRUGS TO SUSPEND THEIR MANUFACTURE AND SALE AND RECALL
PRODUCTS. THE RESULTS ALSO SHOW THAT 149 ITEMS WERE
IMPROPERLY LABELED AS TO THEIR VIRTUES. ON THESE DRUGS,
MHW WILL ORDER MAKERS TO MODIFY STATEMENT OF VIRTUES
WITHIN ONE MONTH. DETAILS OF THE REPORT WILL BE COVERED IN
A SEPARATE AIRGRAM.

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